

# **OMICRON**

**Enterprises, Inc.**

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Dear **ATARI 400/800 Computer User:**

**OMICRON** is currently offering several professional quality products (hardware and software) that we feel are of special interest to **ATARI™ 400/800** computer users. **OMICRON** deals in products which represent the leading edge in small computer technology. **SPEECH SYNTHESIZERS** manufactured by four of the leaders in speech synthesis technology and a new language implementation aimed at taking advantage of features unique to the **ATARI** (at prices the **small computer enthusiast can afford**), are the core of **OMICRON's** product line.

Speech synthesizers allow you to easily program your **ATARI** (or other small computer) to speak. Your **ATARI** computer has some of the best graphics capabilities presently available. Now it can have a voice to match.

- ° Speech synthesizers are great for educational software (try writing a program to help children spell, without one).
- ° Numerous applications for the handicapped (spoken output for the blind, as an example).
- ° Terrific enhancement to games (imagine **STAR RAIDERS** with a talking attack computer).

The applications are limitless. All the popular small computer magazines have been including major articles concerning speech synthesis. NOW is the time to add this exciting capability to your system. The following pages describe the units we have available (**Alien Group-VOICE BOX™**, **Intex Micro Systems-INTEX Talker™**, **Street Electronics-ECHO-CP™**, **Votrax-TYPE-'N-TALK™**). A convenient table of the various features of each manufacturer's speech synthesizer is provided to assist you in selecting the unit which best fits your requirements.

**OMICRON** also offers **valFORTH™** by **VALPAR International**, the language that **ATARI 400/800** users are all talking about (see enclosed data sheet).

Be sure to check our attached price list. At **OMICRON**, we discount our entire product line (not just selected items). All prices listed INCLUDE shipping, handling and insurance. The price listed is the price you pay (Connecticut residents must add sales tax).

Look to **OMICRON** for quality **small computer related products**, at affordable prices.

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### **VOICE BOX™ - The Alien Group**

This low cost synthesizer offers many features of the more expensive units at a cost that everyone can afford. The VOICE BOX is engineered to simply connect to the ATARI 400/800's serial port (the same as your cassette recorder). NO ADDITIONAL EQUIPMENT is required other than your computer and disk drive OR cassette recorder. Spoken output is routed through your television speaker so no special speaker or amplifier is required. Four intonation levels and access to all sixty-four (64) phonemes are standard. A special dictionary (provided on diskette or cassette tape) allows automatic translation of text without resorting to phoneme coding. The VOICE BOX is also available for the APPLE II+. The Alien Group is currently sponsoring a contest with a \$5000.00 prize (plus royalties) for the best ATARI 400/800 or APPLE II+ game using the VOICE BOX. The contest deadline is May 30, 1983. Write to The Alien Group for contest details.

### **INTEX TALKER™ - Intex Micro Systems**

The INTEX TALKER comes standard with every feature the small computer enthusiast could ask for in a reasonably priced speech synthesizer. BOTH RS232C AND PARALLEL interfaces are standard equipment. A built-in 6502 microprocessor ensures excellent performance without slowing down your computer. Sophisticated text to phoneme algorithm (in ROM), SC-01A speech synthesis chip, spoken punctuation, sixty-four (64) inflection/intonation levels, direct access to all sixty-four phonemes (if you choose to use phoneme coding), music and sound effects capabilities are some of the standard features of the INTEX TALKER. Both a built-in power supply and one watt amplifier are included (a jack for connecting the unit to an AUX input of your home stereo is also provided). An ATARI 850™ Interface (or equivalent), external speaker (if not using your stereo system) and cable are required. The INTEX TALKER is a general purpose speech synthesizer, and may be used with any computer with an RS232C or parallel interface. BYTE magazine featured this unit in a two part article by Steve Ciarcia appearing in the September and October, 1982 issues. Read this article for an in depth description of this unit.

### **ECHO-GP™ - Street Electronics Corporation**

The ECHO-GP speech synthesizer uses an upgraded version of the Texas Instruments Speak & Spell chip which uses Linear Predictive Coding speech synthesis technology. The TEXTALKER™ text-to-speech firmware and SPEAKEASY™ phoneme generator are provided with the ECHO-GP. Direct access

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to forty-eight (48) phonemes and diphthongs and sixty-three (63) intonation or pitch levels are supported. The ECHO-GP is available in either RS232C or parallel versions and includes a built-in microprocessor, speaker and amplifier. This unit was compared to the Votrax TYPE-'N'-TALK in the June, 1982 issue of ANTIC™, The ATARI Resource. ANTIC stated that "Intelligibility, features and price make the ECHO distinctly superior." An ATARI 850 Interface (or equivalent) and cable are required.

**TYPE-'N-TALK" - VOTRAX**

The TYPE-'N-TALK speech synthesizer is manufactured by the makers of the now famous SC-01 speech synthesis chip. The TYPE-'N-TALK features a built-in microprocessor, phoneme access modes, pronunciation of each character (including punctuation) if desired and the ability to "daisy chain" more than one speech synthesizer together. This unit comes complete with power supply and one watt audio amplifier. An ATARI 850 Interface (or equivalent), external speaker and cable are required. The TYPE-'N-TALK is a general purpose speech synthesizer, and may be used with any computer with an RS232C interface. ANTIC, The ATARI Resource, featured the TYPE-'N-TALK and ECHO-GP speech synthesizers in a June, 1982 review.

**NOTE:** All speech synthesizers handled by OMICRON have unlimited vocabulary capability and are as easy to use as inserting PRINT statements into a BASIC program. Don't confuse these products with limited vocabulary units available elsewhere.

ATARI, ATARI 400, ATARI 800, ATARI 810 and ATARI 850 are trademarks of ATARI, Inc. a Division of Warner Communications.

APPLE II+ is a trademark of Apple Computer, Inc.

ANTIC is a trademark of ANTIC Publishing.

VOICE BOX is a trademark of The Alien Group.

INTEX and INTEX TALKER are trademarks of INTEX Micro Systems.

ECHO, TEXTALKER and SPEAKEASY are trademarks of Street Electronics Corp.

VOTRAX and TYPE-'N-TALK are trademarks of VOTRAX, a Division of Federal Screw Works.

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## Speech Synthesizers Comparison

	*VOICE BOX™ Alien Group	INTEX Talker™ Intex Micro Systems	ECHO-GP™ Street Electronics	TYPE-'N-TALK™ Vortrax
List Price (excluding shipping)	\$169.00	\$295.00	\$369.00	\$375.00
OMICRON Price (including shipping)	\$149.95	\$269.95	\$339.95	\$324.95
Manufacturers Limited Warranty (days)	N/S	90	N/S	30
Inflection Levels (Pitch)	4	64	63	N/S
Vocabulary Limit	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited
Number Of Phonemes	N/S	64	48	64
Synthesis Type	N/S	SC-01A	LPC (1)	SC-01
Music Capability	N/S	Yes	N/S	N/S
Built in Microprocessor	N/S	Yes (6502)	Yes	Yes
RS232C Interface	N/AP (2)	Standard	Standard	Standard
Parallel Interface	N/AP (2)	Standard	Optional (3)	N/AV
Built in Amplifier	N/R (4)	Yes (1 Watt)	Yes	Yes (1 Watt)
Built in Power Supply	N/R	Yes	N/S	Yes
Speaker	N/S	User Supplied	Included	User Supplied

N/S - Not Specified in manufacturer's technical data sheet.

N/AP - Not Applicable.  
 N/R - Not Required.

- (1) The ECHO-GP uses an upgraded version of the **Speak & Spell™** chip developed by Texas Instruments and uses **Linear Predictive Coding** speech synthesis technology.
- (2) The Alien Group VOICE BOX plugs directly into the **ATARI 400/800** serial port (just like the cassette recorder).
- (3) The ECHO-GP is available in either RS232C or parallel port versions.
- (4) The Alien Group VOICE BOX plays directly through your TV speaker.

(\*) Comparisons listed are for the **ATARI 400/800** version of the Alien Group **VOICE BOX**.

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**valFORTH™ - VALPAR International**

**valFORTH™** by **VALPAR International** is the hottest new language implementation for your **ATARI 400/800** computer. If you have ever been disappointed by the slow speed of BASIC or frustrated by Assembler language programming, then **valFORTH** is for YOU. **VALPAR International** used the **ATARI Program Exchange (APX)** figFORTH as a starting point. They eliminated existing bugs in the figFORTH code and added new, incredibly powerful, FORTH words to take advantage of the special features of the **ATARI 400/800** (such as display lists, graphics and sound). The result is an extremely powerful, high level language which minimizes memory usage and executes **FAST**.

When we first ordered **valFORTH** and it's various associated packages, we wondered if a language could be worth the list price we paid for **valFORTH**. After having used this language for several months, we can honestly say that we would have paid an even higher price for a package with as many professional features as **valFORTH**. FORTH is a language unlike the languages with which most computer users are familiar. FORTH implementations typically execute **10-20 times faster** than BASIC (that's not a typo, 10-20 times faster) and can occupy less memory than Assembler language code. It is not quite as fast as Assembler language but can be as easy to use as a high level language (this greatly speeds up the program development process).

**valFORTH** is an outstanding FORTH implementation which provides the serious **ATARI 400/800** user with most of the tools required to write programs which rival those written by professional programmers, with much less effort (we had players moving around the screen under joystick control an hour after we received the Player/Missle graphics package, and we had never programmed in FORTH or a FORTH like language before). A major strength of **valFORTH** is the amount of documentation supplied (approximately 300 pages of documentation are provided).

**valFORTH** currently comes in six separate packages. We at **OMICRON**, feel that all six packages are necessary to realize the full potential of this powerful language. As a result, we offer only complete sets of **valFORTH** (priced substantially below list price). A brief description of each of the packages follows:

° **valFORTH 1.1** is the core (kernel) of **VALPAR's** FORTH implementation. As mentioned above it is an improved and expanded version of **ATARI APX** figFORTH. Included are floating point routines, access to Operating System I/O routines (i.e. access to RS232 ports), standard fig editor and Macro Assembler which allows high level FORTH and assembler code to be mixed.

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- ° General Utilities & Video Editor - CASE statements, ARRAYS and STRING support are all included in this package. The advanced video editor is a pleasure to use and contains virtually every feature you could want in a FORTH oriented editor. Also included are routines for high resolution textoutput.
- ° Player/Missle Graphics, Character & Sound Editors - This package makes using player/missle graphics so easy that we feel this package warrants the purchase price by itself. Setting up players, establishing player boundaries, moving them under joystick control and detecting collisions can be programmed literally in minutes. A fine character editor and equally good sound editor are also included.
- ° Display Formatter - Keeping in the valFORTH tradition, this package makes custom display list creation a snap. Mixed text and graphics modes, formatting of display lists, fine scrolling (horizontal and vertical), display block delete and insert, automatic insertion of display memory jumps and display interrupts are not only supported, but are incredibly easy to use.
- ° Turtle & valGRAPHICS™, Advanced Floating Point Routines - All the ATARI graphics routines were rewritten for this package. The result is a collection of routines that are approximately **six times faster** than their ATARI counterparts and are "smarter", as well. Features such as LEFT or RIGHT fill (with or without artifacting), exclusive OR'ing or replacement, and access to graphics mode 7+ (seven and a half) are supported. The use of a standard Cartesian Coordinate System makes plotting more straight forward than the standard ATARI coordinate system. Multiple named windows (complete with clipping), named points and an "aspect ratio" calculation, which allows a square to look square on your television screen instead of rectangular, are some additional features of this package. Advanced Floating Point routines and Trig Functions are also included.
- ° Text Compression & Auto Text Formatting - Left or right jusification and centering are supported. The text compression feature is particularly useful for writer of adventure games or similar applications.

A valDOS™ package for reading and writing DOS compatible files and a 3-D graphics package have been announced and should be available soon.

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**PRICE LIST - Effective October 1, 1982**

<u>Product Description</u>	<u>Manufacturer's List Price</u>	<u>OMICRON Price</u>
The Alien Group - VOICE BOX (ATARI) (Specify Disk or Cassette version)	\$169.00	<b>\$149.95</b>
INTEX Talker	\$295.00	<b>\$269.95</b>
ECHO-GP	\$369.00	<b>\$339.95</b>
Votrax - TYPE-'N-TALK Cable for TYPE-'N-TALK (ATARI)	\$375.00 \$24.95	<b>\$324.95 \$22.95</b>
Pkg #1 - valFORTH 1.1	\$45.00	
Pkg #2 - Utilities & Video Editor	\$40.00	
Pkg #3 - P/M Graphics	\$40.00	
Pkg #4 - Display Formatter	\$35.00	
Pkg #5 - Turtle & valGRAPHICS, etc.	\$45.00	
Pkg #6 - Text Comp. & Auto Text Formatting	\$35.00	
Heavy Duty Professional Binder	\$13.00	
Complete valFORTH Package	\$253.00	<b>\$199.95</b>
Starting FORTH by Leo Brodie (available only with purchase of complete valFORTH package).	\$15.95	<b>\$14.00</b>

The complete valFORTH package requires 32K memory and a disk drive.

All prices include shipping, handling and insurance. There are no additional or hidden charges except that Connecticut residents must add 7.5% sales tax.

Prices are applicable only to U.S. shipments within the 48 contiguous states.

Prices are subject to change without notice.

All products are covered by the manufacturer's warranty.

**Official Users Groups** ordering two or more of any item will receive an additional discount. All items must be shipped to the same address. Write for details.

Write for information concerning other **OMICRON** products (printer spoolers, etc.).

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Name:		
Address:		
City:	State:	Zip:
Telephone: (      ) -		

Computer Type	Manufacturer:	Model #:
Total Memory (K):	Cassette:	
Disk(s):		
Printer:		
RS232 Interface:		
Other Equipment:		

Product Description	Item #	Quantity	Unit Price	Extended Amount
<b>Sub Total</b>				

Shipping, handling, insurance                          \$0.00

Connecticut residents add 7.5% \*

Total Amount Enclosed

\* Orders shipped within Connecticut must add 7.5% sales tax.

Send money order, certified check, bank treasurer's check or personal check. Personal checks must wait ten business days before processing. Do not send cash through the mail. No C.O.D. orders will be accepted.